SEL SEL

27 May 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR/DOB

SUBJECT

: Evaluation of AELUNG

- 1. AELUNG served as an indigenous instructor under the undersigned for Project AEROOT from 16 October 1953 until 18 April 1954. It is to be noted that he had been on duty with the same project since its inception, however, not under the supervision of the undersigned. Consequently, this evaluation would only cover the period 16 October 1953--18 April 1954.
- 2. Basically, AELUNG is a research type of individual who would prefer a desk to a compass, entrenching tool and lock-picking kit. As such, obviously, he has his definite value within a training unit. This capability and preference should, however, be known to the officer in charge so that the utmost benefit may be gained from it. AELUNG is very meticulous in keeping all sorts of records such as schedules, training progress, and writing reports; he is also a good instructor in the more academic subjects such as current reality (but not operational arrangements within current reality), communism, Estonian history, etc. As such, it is best to utilize him as a supporting researcher (and instructor) to a more operationally minded indigenous instructor (as, for example,
- 3. Should AELUNG be involved in another Estonian training unit, he should be made to understand from the outset that he is a specialized instructor and analyst and that he has no additional responsibilities or obligations (moral or otherwise) than those definitely assigned him. The reason for this is the fact that, being an Estonian (and a former General Staff officer who served in Estonian Intelligence), he feels an inherent sense of responsibility and moral obligation to his native country and people. As a result, he tends to interfere in matters which are beyond his field of responsibility (and competence) to a point where he actually begins to question our authority to deal freely in matters so vitally pertinent to his country. This, obviously, is not derogatory as far as the interests of Estonia are concerned; however, it does complicate our attempts in mounting an unencumbered FI operation.
 - 4. Other than that, AKLUNG has been found to be very conscientious, reasonably professional, and very secure. His biggest drawback is probably the fact that he becomes overly emotional at times which results in a loss of objectivity and even borders on a lack of self control. (?)

SR/DOB/Project AEROOT Case Officer

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